



# CARTER COURIER

<http://carter.house.gov>

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## LETTER FROM THE CONGRESSMAN

Dear Friends,

This week marks the last week of the Congressional District Work Period. When we return to Washington, DC next week, I will continue working to secure the border, strengthen national security, spend taxpayer dollars wisely, lower gasoline prices, and keep America prosperous.

Our economic policies have led to 34 consecutive months of job growth, low unemployment, and solid wage growth – and we are working to help lower Americans' cost of living. We have passed a tax relief package that helps working families and small businesses; our education reforms will help lower- and middle-income students receive higher education; and our health care reforms will lower costs and make health insurance more affordable.

Until next week,

## CARTER ANNOUNCES \$428 MILLION FOR TEXAS HURRICANE RECOVERY

I am honored to announce that I helped secure a grant for Texas in the amount of \$428,671,849 for hurricane disaster relief as a result of the 2005 Gulf Coast hurricanes. I worked diligently with a select group of Texas Representatives and state officials to ensure that significant funding was provided to the state of Texas for hurricane recovery efforts.

These federal funds will be critical to the ongoing recovery efforts in the wake of Hurricanes Rita and Katrina. The people of Texas suffered tremendous loss during the 2005 hurricane season, and this \$428 million grant will help individuals and families as they rebuild their lives. The rebuilding that can be accomplished as a result of this funding will allow more Texans to live the American Dream.

The Community Development Block Grants made available from the Department of Housing and Urban Development will be used to rehabilitate and reconstruct affordable housing, as well as other infrastructure that was destroyed during last year's hurricanes.

## CARTER READS TO CHILDREN AT GEORGETOWN PEDIATRIC CENTER IN SUPPORT OF REACH OUT AND READ

Last week I visited the Georgetown Pediatric Center and read to a group of young children. Georgetown Pediatric Center participates in Reach Out and Read, a program that trains medi-

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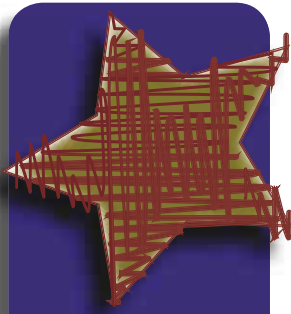
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cal providers to advise parents about the importance of reading aloud and to give free books to children at check-ups from 6 months to 5 years. The books are new, carefully chosen, and developmentally appropriate - starting with board books for babies and moving on to more complex picture books for preschoolers.

Reach Out and Read is a valuable educational tool that I am pleased to fully support. My wife and I read to our children when they were young, and I believe it is an activity that benefits children as they enter school and throughout their lives. I encourage all parents to take the time to teach their children the importance and joy of reading.

Through Reach Out and Read, each child starts kindergarten with a home library of up to 10 books and a parent who has heard at every health supervision visit about the importance of books and reading.

The program has gained broad bipartisan support in the United States Congress and has received federal funding since 2001.

Georgetown Pediatric Center is one of 5 sites in the 31st Congressional District that participate in Reach Out and Read, providing books to more than 4,937 children annually. Across the state, 197 Reach Out and Read sites serve over 174,765 low-income infants, toddlers and preschoolers annually.

Reach Out and Read doctors and nurses distribute 4.1 million books to more than 2.5 million children and their families annually at almost 3,000 pediatric practices, hospitals, clinics and health centers in all 50 states, targeting those centers which serve children at socioeconomic risk. Reach Out and Read has one of the strongest records of research support of any primary care intervention. For more than a decade, studies have indicated that parents who get books and literacy counseling from their doctors and nurses are more likely to read to their young children, read to them more often, and provide more books in the home. More than 44,000 medical providers nationwide have received Reach Out and Read training.



*PHOTOS: Above, Congressman Carter reads to children at Georgetown Pediatric. Right, Carter passes out books from Reach Out and Read to the young patients.*



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### **CARTER URGES INCREASED FUNDING FOR IMPACT AID PROGRAM** *Gives Support to Schools Providing Education to Military Children*

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I recently joined colleagues in urging increased funding for the Impact Aid program, which provides support to local school districts that enroll federally connected children, including military dependent children.

In letters to Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld and Education Secretary Margaret Spellings, we outlined the need for additional funding for this valuable education program. We also asked the secretaries to inform the schools and communities affected by Global Rebas-ing, Army Modularization, and Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) about the timing of the movements and the number of students entering their schools.

Providing our military families with an enhanced quality of life remains a top priority of mine. By increasing funding for Impact Aid, the communities surrounding Fort Hood will continue to provide all military children with a quality education. Especially at a time when



a large number of military families will be moving to new communities, we must ensure that Impact Aid is sufficiently funded to meet these changing needs.

Specifically, the letter points to a Government Accountability Office (GAO) report that has determined that Global Rebasing, Army Modularization, and BRAC will further threaten the ability of Impact Aid to provide education to federally connected children.

According to the Department of Defense, roughly 40,000 school-age children will be making their way into stateside school systems over the next few years due to Global Rebasing. Currently, the Impact Aid program as a whole will have to absorb the cost of educating these children without an increase in funding, resulting in a significant reduction in payments to all school districts impacted by a federal presence.

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### **PUBLIC SERVICE INFORMATION: PASSPORT CHANGES YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT**

Below is information provided by the U.S. Department of State regarding new passport requirements. Especially if you are planning to travel to Canada, Mexico, Central and South America, the Caribbean, or Bermuda this holiday season, it is important that you make yourself aware of these new regulations.

If you have additional questions, please contact the national passport information center at 877-487-2778 or visit [www.travel.state.gov](http://www.travel.state.gov).

#### ***New Requirements for Travelers:***

The Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004 requires that by January 1, 2008, travelers to and from the Caribbean, Bermuda, Panama, Mexico and Canada have a passport or other secure, accepted document to enter or re-enter the United States. In the proposed implementation plan, which is subject to a period of initial public comment, the Initiative will be rolled out in phases, providing as much advance notice as possible to the affected public to enable them to meet the terms of the new guidelines.

The proposed timeline will be as follows:

January 8, 2007 - Requirement applied to all air and sea travel to or from Canada, Mexico, Central and South America, the Caribbean, and Bermuda.

January 1, 2008 - Requirement extended to all land border crossings as well as air and sea travel.

This is a change from prior travel requirements and will affect all United States citizens entering the United States from countries within the Western Hemisphere who do not currently possess valid passports. This new requirement will also affect certain foreign nationals who currently are not required to present a passport to travel to the United States. Most Canadian citizens, citizens of the British Overseas Territory of Bermuda, and to a lesser degree, Mexican citizens will be affected by the implementation of this requirement.

### **NEW! SEPTEMBER COMMUNITY OFFICE HOURS**

Congressman Carter's *staff* will hold community office hours at the following time and location. The staff will be able to meet with residents to listen to their concerns and provide assistance with regard to federal issues and federal agencies.

#### **TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19th**

**9:00 am - 11:30 am**

##### **Rockdale**

Rockdale City Hall  
Council Chamber Room  
505 West Cameron Avenue  
Rockdale, Texas

#### **TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26th**

**8:30 am - 11:00 am**

##### **Copperas Cove**

Chamber of Commerce  
Conference Room  
204 East Robertson Avenue  
Copperas Cove, Texas

#### **TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26th**

**10:30 am - 1:30 pm**

##### **Cameron**

Bea's Kitchen  
101 East Main Street  
Cameron, Texas

#### **WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27th**

**9:00 am - 11:00 am**

##### **Marlin**

Marlin City Hall - Council Chambers  
101 Fortune Street  
Marlin, Texas



# Kids' Page

## QUIZ: HOUSE ARTIFACTS

To the right are pictures of items that are answers for one or more questions.

**1. Which artifact does the House Sergeant-at-Arms use to carry out his or her duties?**

- A. The Eagle
- B. The Flag
- C. The Mace
- D. The Gavel



Rostrum

**2. Where in the House chamber does the Speaker of the House preside?**

- A. The Rostrum
- B. The Oval Office
- C. The Cloak Room
- D. Splendid Hall



The Mace

**3. Name the oldest surviving relic of the U.S. House of Representatives?**

- A. The Seal
- B. The Mace
- C. The Rostrum
- D. The Coin Silver Inkstand

**4. What object sits on top of the U.S. Capitol dome?**

- A. The Statue of Freedom
- B. The Star
- C. The Seal
- D. The Eagle



Coin Silver Inkstand

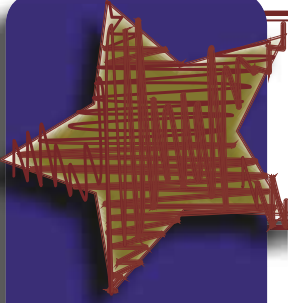
**5. Name the artifact that rests above Statuary Hall's north entrance.**

- A. The Coin Silver Inkstand
- B. The Car of History
- C. The Mace
- D. The Statue of Freedom

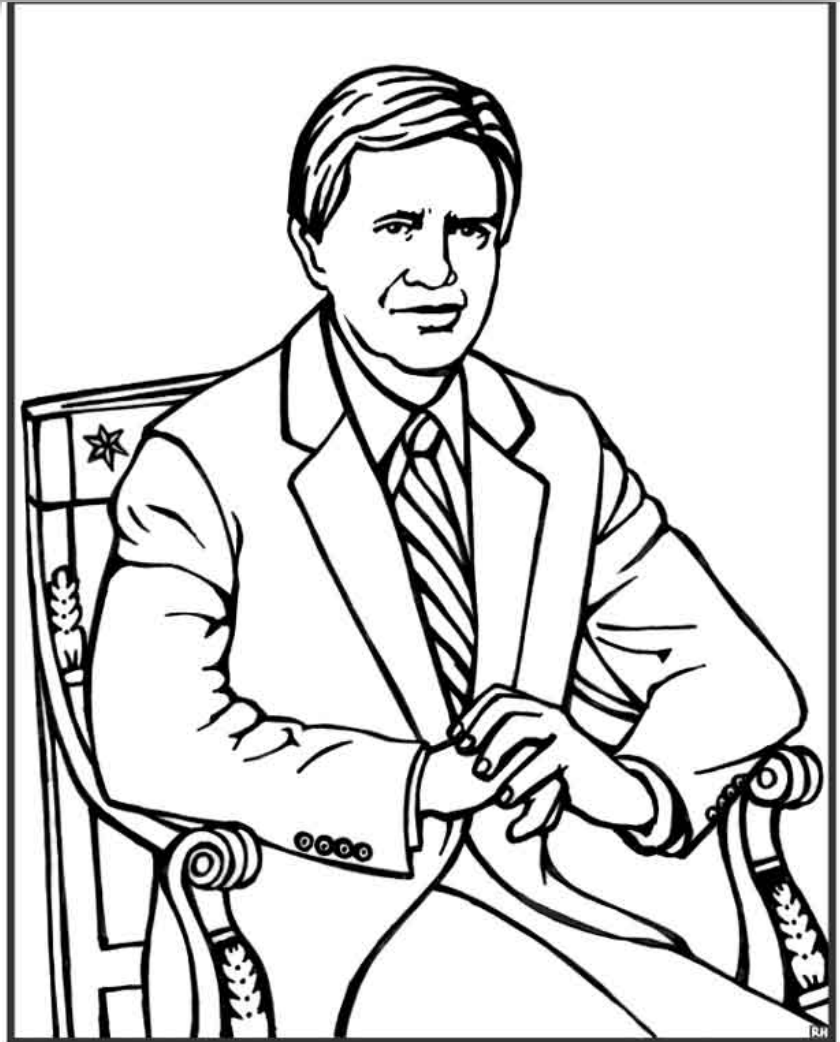
\*Answers on page 4.

Quiz courtesy of the House Office of the Clerk





# Color the President



**Jimmy Carter**

**Presidential Number: 39th**

Years he was President: 1977-1981

State Represented: Georgia

Party Affiliation: Democrat

Fact(s): He has four children. He recently won the Nobel Peace Prize.

Other way(s) he served: Governor of Georgia, State Senator

Height: 5 feet, 9.5 inches

Hobbies or Sports: Canoeing, fishing, jogging, skiing, softball, swimming, tennis

Pets: His daughter had a cat

**Personal**

Birthday: October 1, 1924

How old would he be this year? 82

School(s) attended: United States

Naval Academy, Union College

Wife: Rosalynn Carter

Occupation(s) before he was President: Peanut farmer and broker

**Life in America**

How would he have traveled? Helicopter, airplane, car

How would he have communicated with his friends? Telephone, typed letter

U.S. Population when term began: 226,542,199

Number of stars on flag when he left office: 50